concessional duties;

(iii) strengthening design and development programmes;

(iv) augmenting man-power training both within the country or outside;

(v) establishing industrial estates and promoting common facility centers; and

(vi) improving quality of Indian leather products and making them more competitive in the world market.

[*English*]

Alleppy Port

5872. SHRI THAYIL JOHN ANJALOSE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposed to declare Alleppy Port in Kerala as a major port;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) In view of the existing and proposed facilities at Cochin Port, at present it is not considered necessary to declare Alleppy Port as a major port.

Raids Conducted by Income Tax Department in Orissa

5873. SHRI BHAGEY GOBARDHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of cases of raids conducted in Orissa by the Income Tax Department which are pending for disposal as on date;

(b) the details of seizure of immovable and movable properties in each case and value thereof; and

(c) the reasons for delay in disposal of these cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b): 174 assessments are pending as on date in the cases of 58 persons assessed in Orissa who were searched by the Income-tax Department. Details of assets seized are given in the statement attached.

(c) By and large, there has been no delay. In fact, in some cases, the searches were completed only some time ago. The assessments have been taken up for completion within the statutory time-limit as provided for under the Income Tax Act, 1961.